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15 August 1988

Suzanne Billings EPA Project Coordinator USEPA Hazardous Waste Enforcement Branch 841 Chestnut Building Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: EPA Comments on the Draft Remedial Investigation Site Operations Plan for the Eastern Diversified Metals Site, Hometown, PA.

Dear Suzanne:

ERM has recently received the EPA comments on the draft Remedial Investigation Site Operations Plan (RISOP) for the Eastern Diversified Metals site. As you may know, ERM based the RISOP and the schedule for the Remedial Investigation (RI), on the approved Work Plan for the EDM Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). Although we had informally discussed some of the EPA comments, ERM was surprised by the nature and extent of the written comments, the impact that they would have on the ultimate design of the RI/FS, and the reopening of issues already decided in the development of the Work Plan. At this point, we are finding that a significant effort will be necessary to determine the final revisions to be made, and to make those revisions.

We are presently in communication with some members of the EPA peer review team in an attempt to gain a better understanding of the comments. However, the effort required to address such extensive comments, precludes the reasonable expectation of a final RISOP submission on September 7, 1988.

ERM feels that it is most important to go through only one revision of this document so that the Remedial Investigation can proceed during the 1988 fall season, as planned. For this reason, ERM, on behalf of the EDM site Respondents, requests an extension of the final RISOP due date to September 30, 1988. This will allow

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for the detailed discussions between ERM and EPA that will now be necessary due to the nature of EPA's comments, and document revisions, which will result in a mutually acceptable RISOP for this project.

Sincerely,

Marilyn A. Hewitt

Marilyn A. Hewitt Project Coordinator

cc: William D. Powers, Esquire
Michael W. Steinberg, Esquire
Bruce H. Rapp
Richard Beldner, Esquire
Benjamin G. Stonelake, Esquire

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